

Abstract of the Disclosure

A mail server includes a POP mail box which stores received electronic mail by corresponding each of the electronic mail and an electronic mail address of a destination of each of the electronic mail, and an SMTP server which transmits electronic mail of a new mail notification to the electronic mail address of the destination of the received electronic mail by a push method protocol. The mail server also includes a distribution unit which distributes the electronic mail by a pull method protocol in accordance with a distribution request from the electronic mail address of the destination of the electronic mail stored in the mailbox. When receiving electronic mail, the received electronic mail is stored into the POP mailbox without distributing the received electronic mail immediately. When necessary, a new mail notification is carried out to an electronic mail address of a destination of the received electronic mail.